

Application No 09/918,378
Amendment dated 10 June 2005
Reply to Office Action of 10 March 2005

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheets of drawings include changes to Figures 2 and 3. Missing reference numerals have been added to the Figures.

Attachments: Replacement Sheet

Annotated Sheet Showing Changes

REMARKS

In the above-mentioned Office Action, all the pending claims, claims 1-20, were rejected. Claims 1 and 13 were rejected under Section 102(b) over *Ling*. Claims 2-4, 7-12, 14-16, and 18-20 were rejected under Section 103(a) over the combination of *Ling* and *Montejo*. And, claims 5, 6, and 17 were rejected under Section 103(a) over the combination of *Ling*, *Montejo* and *Mui*.

Additionally, objection was made to an informality in claim 4, and objections were made to Figures 2 and 3 of the drawings for missing reference signs.

Responsive to the rejections of the claims, independent claims 1 and 13 have been amended as set forth herein, in manners believed to distinguish better the invention of the present application over the cited references used thereagainst.

Support for the amendments are found, for instance, on page 6, lines 5-7 and 20-22, and page 13, lines 12-14.

In the rejection, the Examiner acknowledged that *Ling* fails to disclose a MAC channel. And, accordingly, as amended, claims 1 and 13 are believed to be distinguishable over *Ling* for this reason. While the Examiner relied, in a separate rejection, upon *Montejo* for disclosing a MAC channel, there is no disclosure in *Montejo*, nor any assertion by the Examiner, that *Montejo* discloses the structure, or corresponding method, with respect to the recitation of the MAC data-type operator, recited as now amended in claim 1, or the analogous methodology of claim 13, as now-amended.

Namely, with respect to claim 1, the claim has been amended, now to recite, a MAC data-type operator that operates upon a MAC data-type portion to strip informational content out of the MAC data-type portion and thereafter form a representation of the MAC data portion subsequent to communication upon the MAC data channel. Claim 13 has been analogously amended. Neither *Ling* nor *Montejo* disclose such structure, or corresponding method. To the extent that the Examiner asserts that either of these references discloses the structure or methodology of the claims, as now amended, such assertion is respectively traversed. *Mui*, cited in combination with *Ling* and *Montejo* in the rejection of claims 5, 6, and 17, was cited merely

for showing a weight generator. This reference also fails to disclose the structure or methodology of the claims, as now-amended.

Accordingly, no combination of the cited references can be made to form the invention recited in claims 1 and 13, as now amended.

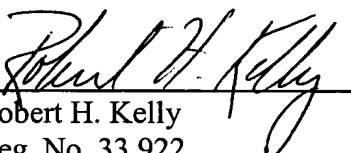
Amendments made to various of the dependent claims were made responsive to amendments made to their respective parent claims. And, amendment was made to claim 4 to overcome the Examiner's objection thereto. Because the dependent claims include all the limitations of their respective parent claims, these claims are believed to be patentably distinguishable over the cited combinations of references used thereagainst for the same reasons as those given with respect to their parent claims.

Amendments to Figures 2 and 3 of the drawings are also believed to overcome the Examiner's objections to the figures.

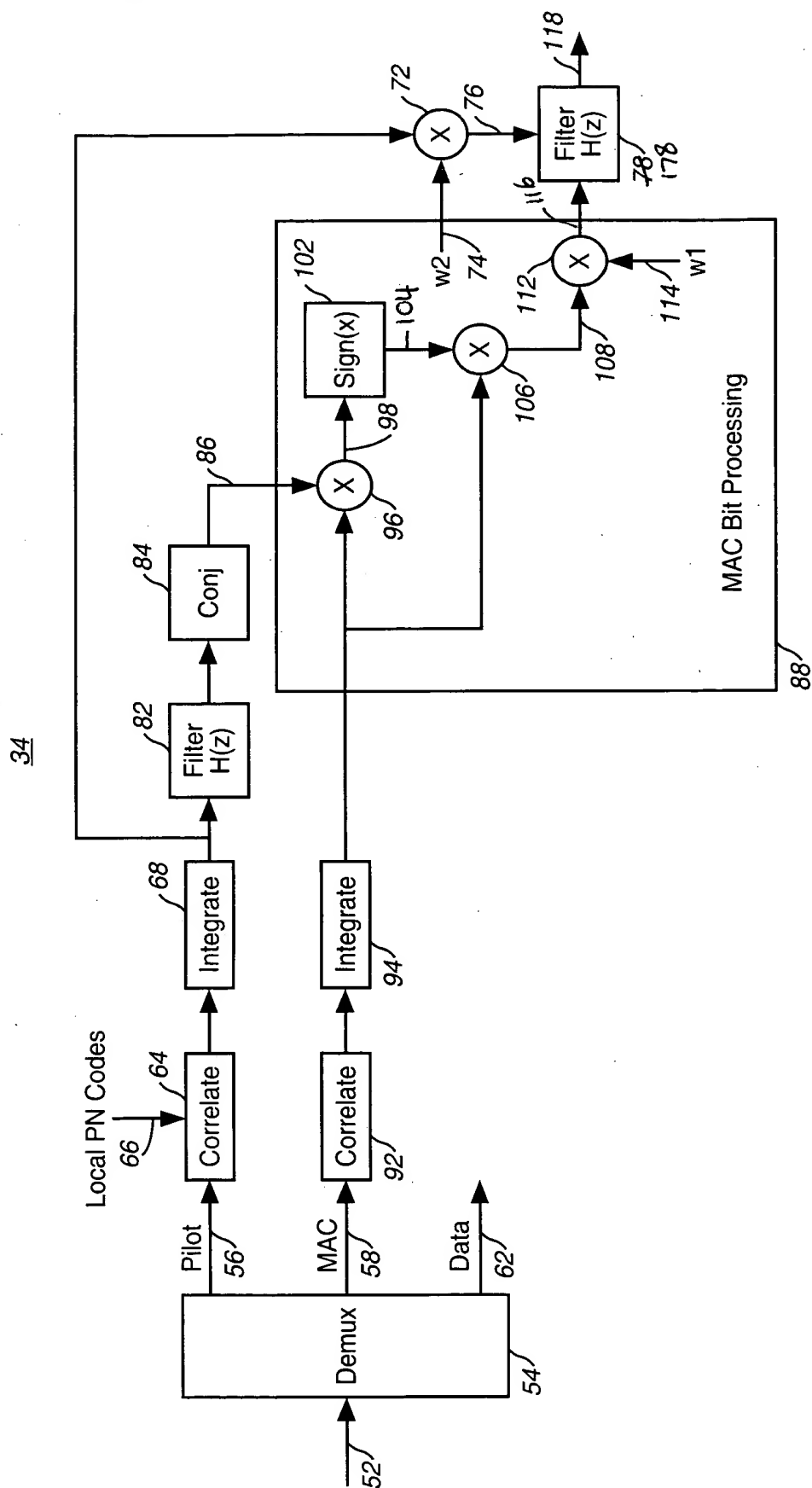
In light of the foregoing, independent claims 1 and 13, and the remaining ones of the dependent claims dependent thereon, are believed to be in condition for allowance. Accordingly, reexamination and reconsideration for allowance of these claims is respectively requested. Such early action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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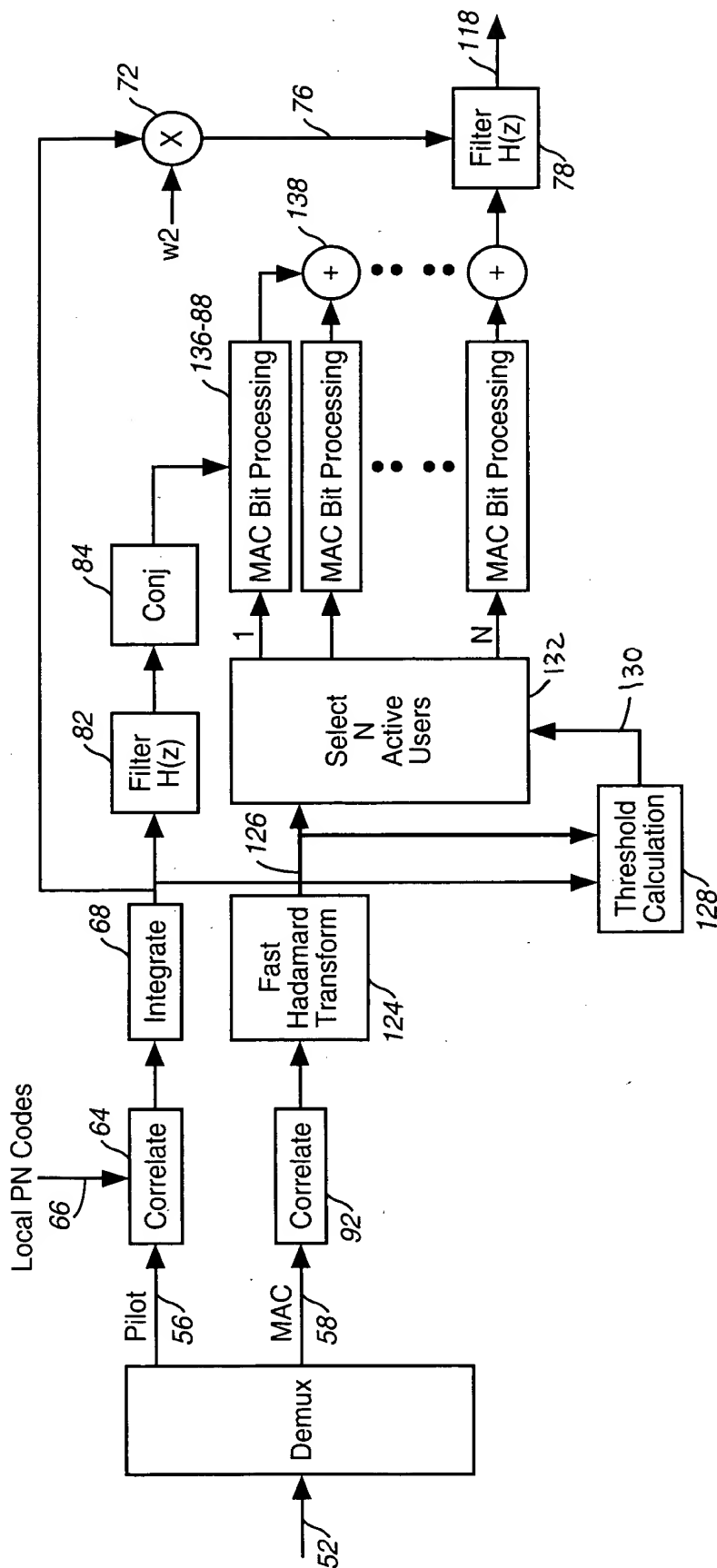


FIG. 3